

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 AID-05 IGA-02 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /038 W

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R 281140Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4577

AMEMBASSY SANA

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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DEPT PASS USGS/RESTON FOR DAVIDSON AND JONES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, YE, YS

SUBJ: USGS PARTICIPATION IN YEMEN GEOLOGICAL PROGRAM

REF: SANA 0217

1. EMBOFF BROUGHT CONTENTS REFTEL TO ATTENTION OF YEMEN GEOLOGICAL PROGRAM ACTION OFFICER IN ARAB FUND, KHOJALI ABU BAKR, ON JANUARY 27. NEXT DAY EMBOFF TELEPHONED ABU BAKR TO FIND OUT WHAT NEXT STEPS ARE LIKELY TO BE.

2. ABU BAKR SAID HE CANNOT YET PROVIDE PRECISE INFO RE SCOPE AND TIMING REQUESTED PARA 3 REFTEL. HOWEVER, HE DID SAY THAT ARAB FUND IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED WITH PROGRAM DEFINITION RIGHT NOW. ACCORDING TO ABU BAKR, THINKING IN ARAB FUND IS THAT (A) GEOLOGICAL PROGRAM SHOULD BE REGIONAL COVERING BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN AND (B) IT PORBABLY WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE AT THIS STAGE TO PREPARE A MORE GENERAL SURVEY THAN ASSUMED IN REFTEL. FEDERAL SURVEY WOULD SERVE AS GUIDE TO ARAB FUND FOR SUBSEQUENT, MORE DETAILED PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES. ARAB FUND WANTS TO ASSURE THAT NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN GEOLOGICAL PROGRAMS ARE COMPATIBLE.

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3. ABU BAKR ADDED THAT HE ANTICIPATES GOING TO SANA AND ADEN SOON,

PROBABLY NEXT WEEK, TO DISCUSS PROGRAM WITH YARG AND PDRY OFFICIALS. MEANWHILE ARAB FUND ATTEMPTING INTEGRATE EFFORTS WITH UNDP AND OTHER LIKELY DONORS, INCLUDING NATIONAL ARAB FUNDS. ABU BAKR SAID ARAB FUND WILL ALSO INCLUDE USAID AMONG POTENTIAL DONOR GROUP, BUT HE ASKED WHETHER USG WOULD HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH ARAB FUND APPROACH. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT INVOLVEMENT OF PDRY WITH WHOM WE DO NOT CURRENTLY HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OBVIOUSLY WAS COMPLICATING FACTOR. HOWEVER, EMBOFF TOLD ABU BAKR HE COULD NOT SAY DEFINITELY WHETHER OR NOT THIS WAS NECESSARILY A PROBLEM. ABU BAKR SAID IN ANY CASE ARAB FUND PREPARED TO TRY TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY USG COULD PARTICIPATE IN NORTH YEMEN ONLY.

4. COMMENT: BASED ON ABU BAKR'S REMARKS APPEARS THAT ARAB FUND GENERALLY RECEPTIVE TO USGS PARTICIPATION AND PREPARED TO BE COOPERATIVE. FINAL TERMS OF PROGRAMS REMAIN TO BE COMPLETED, AND WE ASSUME POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF PDRY COULD COMPLICATE MATTER, EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT ABU BAKR MEET WITH EMBOFFS IN SANA; AND EMBASSY SANA MAY WISH TO WORK OUT CPO/AFESD/EMBASSY MEETING WHILE HE THERE. HE RECALLED HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH AMBASSADOR SCOTES IN YEMEN AND HE ASKED EMBOFF TO CONVEY HIS BEST WISHES. SECOND CABLE THIS SUBJECT FOLLOWS.
MAU

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GEOLOGY, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KUWAIT00441
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760033-0153
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760114/aaaaalyu.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SANA 217
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USGS PARTICIPATION IN YEMEN GEOLOGICAL PROGRAM
TAGS: EGEN, TPHY, YE, YS
To: STATE SANA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006